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26 June 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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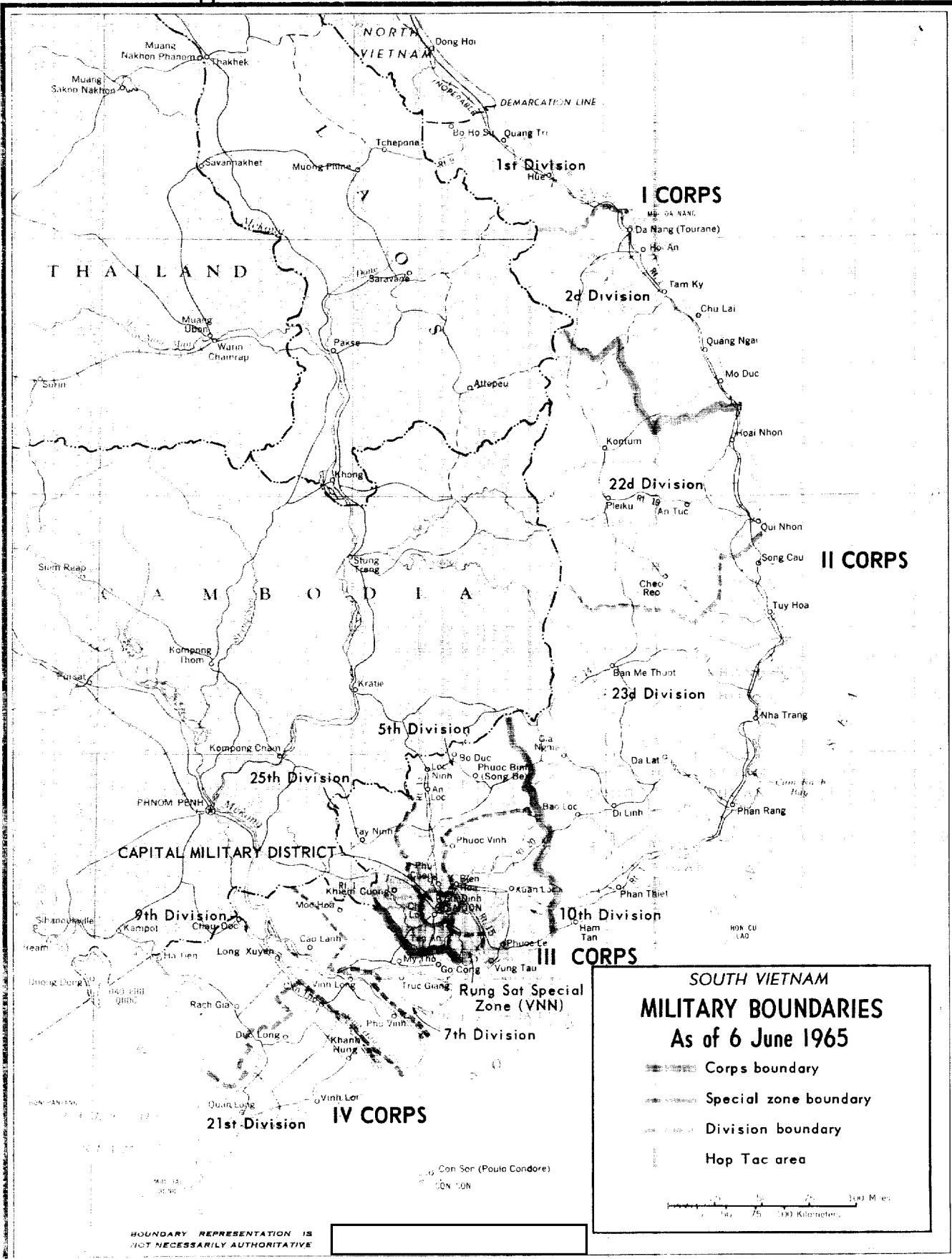
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26 June 1965

*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

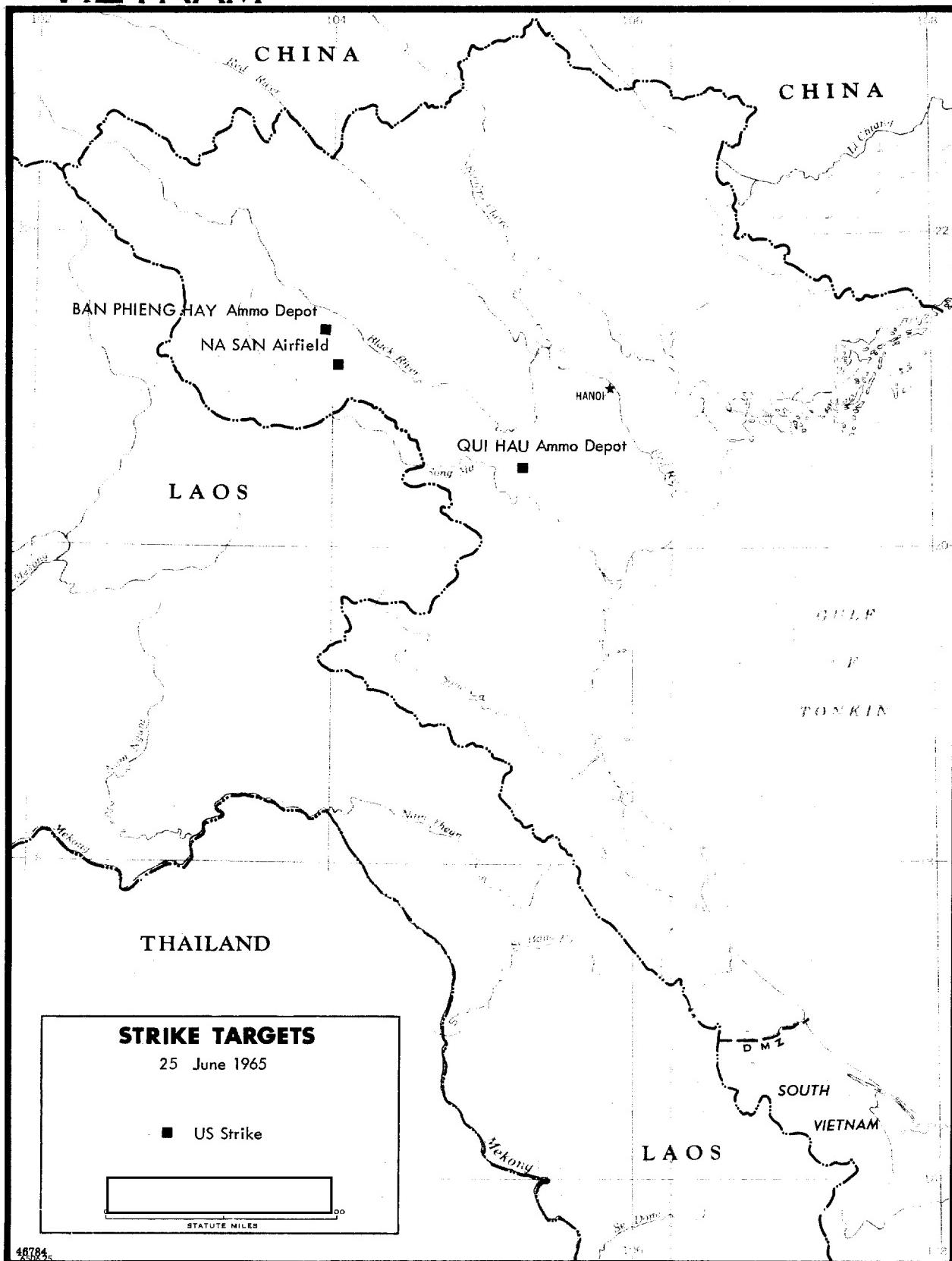
The Military Situation in South Vietnam: The latest reported casualty figures from the Viet Cong terrorist explosions on 25 June against a floating restaurant at the Saigon waterfront list 32 killed and 42 wounded. The totals include 12 Americans killed and 15 wounded. The nature of the blasts, which shattered the superstructure of the ship housing the restaurant and damaged the nearby French consulate, has not been immediately determined. Saigon police officials have speculated that Claymore-type mines were used.

On 24 June, a South Vietnamese government battalion, en route to relieve a civilian truck convoy attacked by the Viet Cong about 15 miles northwest of Ban Me Thuot, in Darlac Province, was ambushed by two companies of Viet Cong. According to preliminary reports, one US adviser was killed and 11 South Vietnamese troops were wounded, with 33 weapons lost to the Viet Cong. The Communists, who seized the rice supply being carried by the convoy but released the civilian drivers, lost an estimated 20 killed by US helicopter fire in support of the reaction force.

A US paratroop operation some six miles north of Bien Hoa airfield has ended with the capture of 30 suspects and the destruction of rice stores and bunkers. One US soldier was wounded in the operation and another is reported missing.

Political Developments in South Vietnam: Thich Tam Chau, chairman of the Buddhist Institute in Saigon, is said to have recently described Premier Ky as a courageous man with the will to do a good job, but lacking in political maturity. Chau indicated that he was

NORTH VIETNAM



advising his own followers to avoid political involvement, but predicted that Ky would eventually provoke even more formidable opposition than that faced by the Quat government.

[There are indications that the Ky government will not seek to curry favor with any particular religious groups, and that it may even attempt to reduce the power of some religious leaders. One official who is close to ruling circles told a US Embassy officer on 24 June that he considered Buddhist monk Tri Quang a "nut," and that Premier Ky might be just the man to handle Quang.]

Air Strikes in North Vietnam: On 25 June US fighters and fighter bombers struck an ammunition depot and an airfield in northwestern North Vietnam and an ammunition depot southwest of Hanoi. Armed route reconnaissance missions damaged a railroad classification yard, five box cars, a railroad bridge, several trucks and three ferry landings. One USN aircraft was apparently downed by ground fire west of Thanh Hoa while on armed route reconnaissance.

USAF F-105 fighter bombers struck the Ban Phieng Hay ammunition depot in the Northwest Military Region. Pilots claim a highly successful mission with 10 buildings destroyed and three damaged. USAF fighter bombers also struck the Na San Airfield complex which serves as a connecting facility between Hanoi and Dien Bien Phu. Pilot reports indicated heavy crater damage to runways and parking areas, heavy damage to the POL area, and two buildings destroyed and one severely damaged.

Two waves of USN fighters and fighter bombers struck the Qui Hau ammunition depot and destroyed one building and damaged seven others.

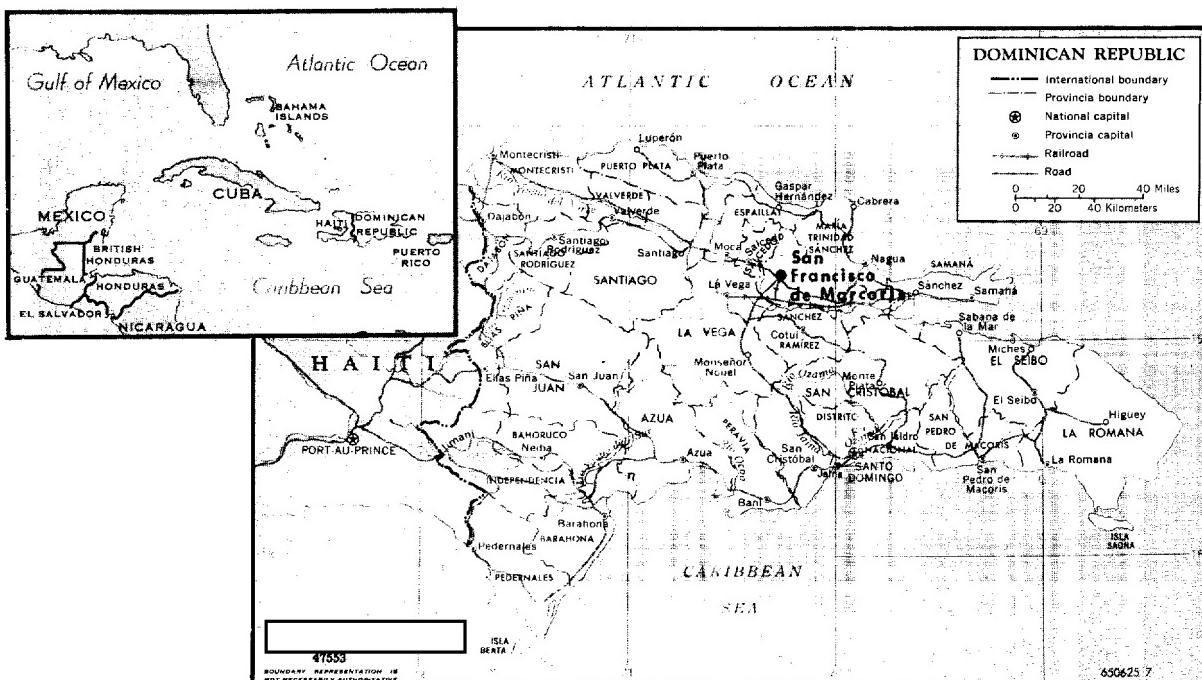
Communist Political Developments:

DRV turned down Soviet requests that Hanoi reply favorably to the "appeal of the 17 neutral countries" and to President Johnson's appeal for negotiations. Hanoi reportedly informed Moscow that "a favorable reply" will

not be forthcoming unless the US accepts the NFLSV as a partner in the negotiations. The DRV expects a local war of long duration and has asked other socialist countries for material assistance. [redacted]

[redacted] North Vietnam does not now need outside manpower, but if Hanoi eventually finds itself in a "difficult situation and is unable to face US aggression, it will appeal for massive help, including manpower."

Commonwealth Mission: Although Peiping, Hanoi and Moscow have all rejected the Commonwealth peace mission proposal, members of the mission are still hopeful that these Communist capitals will eventually receive them. London still believes that the Soviets would receive the mission if they could do so without openly disagreeing with Hanoi. The British apparently hope Moscow will bring some pressure on Hanoi to modify its stand. Ghana's President Nkrumah, as a member of the Commonwealth mission, has publicly sponsored some of the Communist conditions for negotiations--such as a cessation of the airstrikes on North Vietnam and a recognition of the NFLSV as a negotiating partner--in an apparent effort to make the mission more palatable to the Communist world. Nkrumah stated on 24 June that he had strongly urged the Chinese to receive the mission.



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*Dominican Republic: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT) The Imbert government has strengthened security precautions throughout the interior in the wake of the rebel attack yesterday on police and army posts in the city of San Francisco de Macoris.

The well-armed attackers, reportedly numbering about 80, were dispersed after several hours of heavy firing. Several were killed and the government claims that about 30 were captured. This was the first major incident of violence in the interior since the insurrection began nine weeks ago.

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Hard-line extremists in the rebel camp had been planning coordinated uprisings in a number of towns and cities this week, but the nationwide strike that was to set the stage was a failure.

There have thus far been no reported rebel attacks elsewhere in the interior since the fighting in San Francisco de Macoris. In the important city of Santiago, however, leaflets urging support for an immediate uprising were being passed around early yesterday evening.

Yesterday's fighting in San Francisco de Macoris may further raise the Imbert government's growing pressure for early action against the main center of rebel activity in Santo Domingo. Government radio outlets devoted themselves almost entirely yesterday to demands that the US and the OAS step aside to permit loyalist forces to move in and "clean out" the rebel-held area of the city.

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Ecuador: Pro-Communists in Guayaquil intend to bomb the American Consulate General and kidnap a US official, [redacted]

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These acts are planned by the Union of Ecuadorean Revolutionary Youth (URJE). The police consider them part of the "city-wide trouble" expected between now and 11 July, the second anniversary of the Ecuadorian junta's accession to power. A member of URJE arrested on 22 June near the consulate general had a home-made bomb in his possession.

URJE efforts may be intended in part to impress the Communist-influenced Federation of Ecuadorean University Students, which is now meeting in Quito. Authorities in Quito have been concerned over the possibility of demonstrations in connection with this meeting as well as a mass demonstration of political parties and students planned for 9 July. [redacted]

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Mozambique: Anti-Portuguese rebel activity is increasing in northern Mozambique. Although the rebels are still no match for the strong Portuguese troops there, the insurgents apparently are carrying out more frequent attacks. The Portuguese claim that some of the weapons captured from the rebels are of Communist origin, indicating that some of the Soviet and Chinese arms shipped to Tanzania have been passed to the rebel forces.

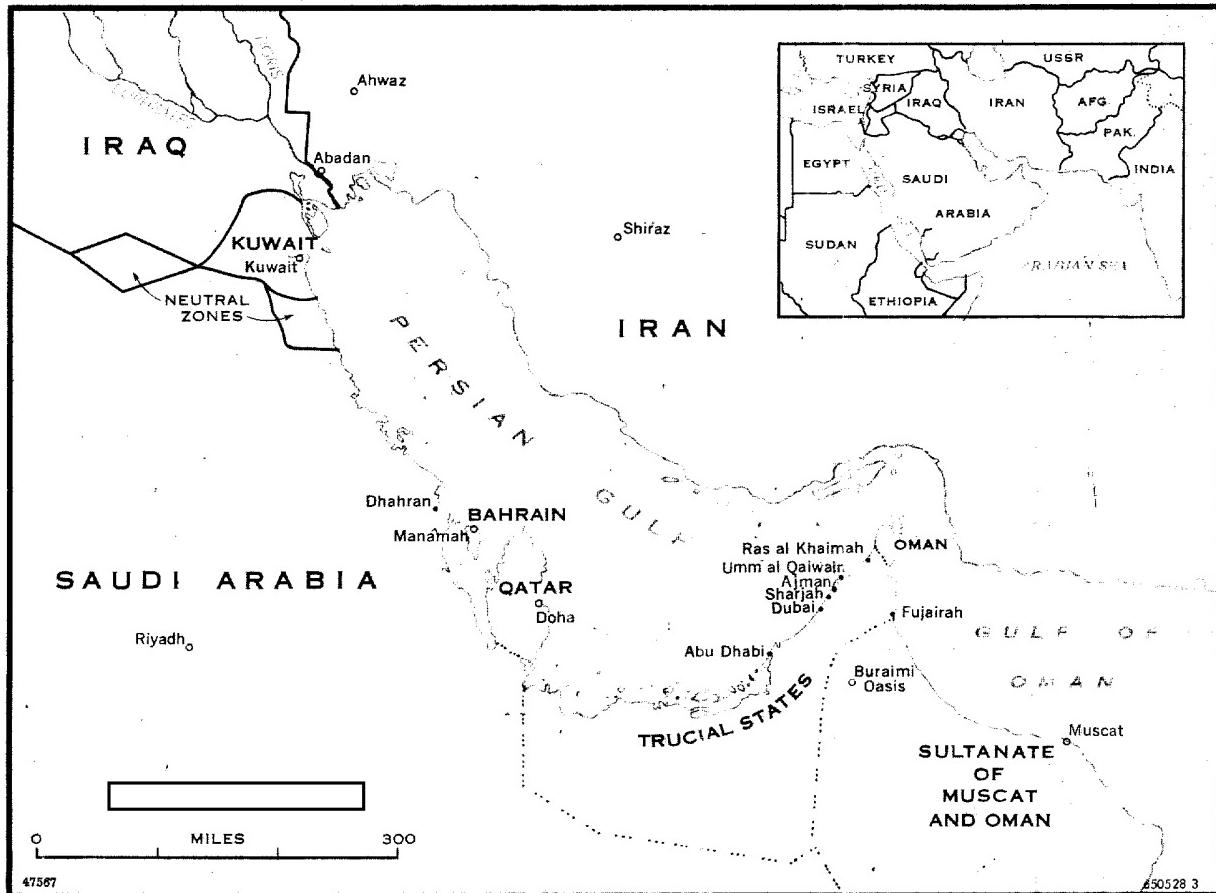
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PERSIAN GULF AREA



26 June 65 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

Trucial States: [The ruler of Sharjah, leader of the five sheikhs who are defying Britain over the issue of permitting an Arab League development office in the Persian Gulf, has been ousted following a family conclave. Despite the official announcement's emphasis on the sheikh's "scandalous behavior" and neglect of his people's welfare, there seems to be little doubt that British maneuvering lies behind the move. Although Britain has avoided a direct use of force, the lesson behind the ruler's deposition can hardly be lost on the other four dissident sheikhs.]

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary of Defense

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Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

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Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

Commander in Chief, Atlantic

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The Director, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

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